

## **JOBS IN THE ARMY**

Perhaps you have thought about a career in the U.S. Army. The Army has many opportunities to serve your country while doing work you enjoy. Many civilian careers, such as engineering, medicine, law, and teaching, can be found in the Army, or in other branches of the military.

The Army requires that enlistees be at least 17 years old (written parental consent is required for 17-year-olds before the enlistment process begins). Enlistees must pass a physical, meet moral eligibility requirements, and qualify for enlistment and a particular field on the Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT) with a score of 31 or higher required in most cases. A high school diploma or a GED high school equivalency diploma is also required.

The Army allows men and women to enlist for a two- to four-year period, depending on the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) for which they enlist. A job that requires extensive training (i.e., linguist, air traffic controller) will also require a longer commitment. Training in a particular skill is guaranteed in writing before enlistment.

Special programs can make enlisting easier, including the Partnership for Youth Success, which matches recruits with potential employers for the period after they leave the Army or the Army Reserve; the Army English Comprehension Enlistment Option, which provides language training for those with limited understanding of English; and the Army Buddy Team Option, which allows two friends from the same locality to join together and stay together during basic training and first assignments.

Several enlistment incentives are available, including cash bonuses from \$1,500 to \$20,000, the Army College Fund (which may pay the full cost of a college education), and the Loan Repayment Program. Soldiers can also take postsecondary courses online through eArmyU (Army University Online). Those who graduate from college or participate in a college ROTC program may be eligible for accelerated promotions.

There are 212 job skill categories in the Army, including mechanical maintenance, transportation, military police, artillery, and signal operations. Each skill category has many different jobs.

The Army Reserve allows men and women to serve their country in many of the same ways on a part-time basis. The service includes one weekend a month and two weeks a year, and reservists are able to work close to home. As with the regular Army, there are educational benefits in the Reserve.

Check out [www.goarmy.com](http://www.goarmy.com) on the World Wide Web for more information. Or, check the white pages of your local telephone directory for a recruiter near you.